

# ANN LANDERS



## You Can Learn From This

Dear Ann Landers: I was upset by the person who described childless couples as "whiners" because they went through life moaning that they were not blessed with babies. Adoption was the perfect solution, according to the writer, and anyone who did not choose to solve the problem in this way was either "selfish, lazy or both."

My husband and I wanted children badly. We were not blessed, but then we were married later than most people (I was 37, he was 38). When we attempted to adopt we ran into obstacles which turned out to be insurmountable. First, ours was a mixed marriage. Second, younger couples were given preference. Third, I had a history of heart trouble.

Yesterday's mail brought me two copies of your column from anonymous "friends" I think I know who sent those columns but under no circumstances would I attempt to defend myself. It would help those of us who are childless but not by choice if you would print this letter. — PENNSYLVANIA PEGGY

Dear Peggy: Here's your letter and I hope your anonymous "friends" see it and learn something.

Dear Ann Landers: I was saddened by the letter about the delivery boy who was hit by a truck. However, your plea that bicycle manufacturers meet tougher safety standards would solve no problems. A safer bicycle does not necessarily mean a safer cyclist. If the National Safety Council and the parents of America are concerned, it's time they passed a few laws similar to the ones they have in Europe.

- (1) All bicycles must have front and rear lights after sundown.
- (2) All cyclists must travel WITH the flow of traffic and must keep to the inside lane nearest the curb.
- (3) Cyclists must give hand signals when turning left or right.

Kids all over the world ride bicycles. Americans have the most accidents. It is not surprising since they need not study the highway code or obtain a license to operate a bicycle. I've had some mighty close calls because of stupid cyclists. Had I not been alert I could have killed at least two kids that come to mind at once. I'm willing to bet the blame belongs on the delivery boy and not on the truck driver who wrote that sad letter. — M.S.S.

Dear M.S.S.: Thanks for writing. Your letter makes sense, and, of course, the truck drivers will love you.

Dear Ann Landers: Please settle an argument, and don't tell me to go look it up. If I knew where to look I wouldn't be writing you.

My brother-in-law says anyone (male or female) who is not a United States citizen can become one, automatically, by marrying a person who is a citizen.

I say he is wrong. I say a person who wants to become a United States citizen must apply for citizenship papers and pass certain tests. Who is right? — THE FLEA

Dear Flea: Marriage to a U.S. citizen will not produce instant citizenship. It takes five years to become a U.S. citizen, unless citizenship is proffered by a special act of Congress.

A non-citizen who marries a U.S. citizen may remain in this country indefinitely — but as an alien.

"The Bride's Guide," Ann Landers' booklet, answers some of the most frequently asked questions about weddings. To receive your copy of this comprehensive guide, write to Ann Landers, in care of the Press-Herald, enclosing a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and 35 cents in coin.

Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the Press-Herald, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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## Family Saved as Girl's Crying Alerts Father

A 4-year-old Torrance girl saved her family from possible

death early Sunday morning when she awoke crying.

Max Fisher, of 22501 Susana Ave., awoke shortly before 1:30 a.m. when he heard his daughter, Margie crying and discovered his home filled with dense smoke.

Fisher awoke his wife and the pair went to the children's bedroom, where they picked up Margie and their 17-month-old son Todd and crawled to safety through a bedroom window.

Four units from the Torrance Fire Department responded to the 1:29 a.m. alarm and controlled the fire in about 10 minutes. Battalion Chief Charles Reintsma was in command.

Firefighters said a television set which had been turned off about 10:30 Saturday apparently shorted out, causing the fire.

There was some structural damage to the floor and wall near the television set and extensive smoke damage throughout the house.

## Three Jailed After Search Reveals Pills

A police search of a suspicious-looking vehicle early Saturday morning turned up a bag of 60 white tablets resembling the restricted drug benzadrine.

Arrested for possession of dangerous drugs were Freddie Williams, 26, of Long Beach; Robert Martinez, 22, of 1728 Abalone Ave.; and Daniel J. Updegraff, 21, of 18030 S. Van Ness Ave. Williams was also charged with driving without a license in his possession.

Police suspicions were aroused when they observed the three suspects in the vehicle parked on a dead-end street about 2:45 a.m.



**NEW EAGLE SCOUT** . . . Christopher Scott Roller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roller of 18514 Prairie Ave., will receive the Eagle Scout award tomorrow in a Court of Honor to be held at Crenshaw School at 7:30 p.m. A former member of Pack 948-C, Chris has served in numerous troop posts and is a member of the Order of the Arrow. A student at North High, Chris plays the drums in the school band. He also holds the Arrow of Light.



**HONOR SCOUT** . . . Bruce Allen Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Brown of 18428 Burin Ave., will receive the Eagle Scout award tomorrow during a Court of Honor being held by Scout Troop 948. Bruce, who has held such posts as senior patrol leader and junior assistant scout master, is a member of the Order of the Arrow and has received his Arrow of Light. He is a student at West High School.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1968

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## Count Marco

## Here Are Hints For Job Hunting

Recently, I received a letter from a girl who has been unemployed for six months and can't get a job, although she feels she is qualified, having had an education at a commercial school.

She wrote, "On an interview, the employer asked me if I had any questions to ask. I didn't. I figure they'd tell me everything I should know. They always say well, we'll let you know or we're not hiring right now."

"Could you tell me how to act on an interview. How I should speak and how I should dress? Maybe I'm not doing it right. If they want questions, what kind of questions should I ask?"

Had she sent a return address, there was one major fault I could have announced immediately — her spelling was poor. Who in the world is teaching spelling in schools today, imbeciles?

If you girls are job hunting there are a number of rules you must follow. Once, as a lark and in the interest of research, I filled in for a friend of mine as an interviewer in an employment agency. The first thing I would counsel the girls and

women on was their dress and make-up.

So many of the girls came in made-up as though they were going to audition for a night club act. Make-up should be kept to a minimum. Leave the eyeshadow and liner off, use a subdued lipstick and a natural polish on the nails. Your hair comes in for secondary criticism. If it's long, have it pulled back and out of your face. Don't, for heaven's sake, have a hairdresser make it up with elaborate curls and swirls.

If you're over 35 leave the mini-skirts for leg showing away from the office.

Wear a hat, carry gloves and wear a simple, simple dress or preferably a suit. Hose are also a must, and shoes should not only be shined but be sure the heels are not worn down.

When you sit keep your ankles (not your knees) together and tucked somewhat to the side and slightly behind.

Relax. Remember always, there are more jobs than there are qualified persons to fill them. So the odds are on your side.



**CITIZEN OF THE MONTH**—Eugene E. Meyer Jr. (right) of Redondo Beach, received the Citizen of the Month award, sponsored by Great Lakes Properties. Superior Court Judge Raymond Choate, one of the judges for the Citizen program, made the presentation to Meyer at a meeting of the Redondo Beach Rotary Club.

## Homeowners' Plan Christmas Lighting Contest

A total of five categories has been established for this year's annual Christmas decoration contest, according to Joe Kirner, special project chairman for the Riviera Homeowners' Association.

The contest is open to all homeowners in the Riviera area and the judging caravan will review the entries a few days before Christmas, Kirner said.

- The categories include:
- Best religious theme.
  - Best cartoon character theme.
  - Best door decoration (either front door or garage).
  - Most effective use of lights.
  - Best overall entry.

Judging will take place from 7 to 10 p.m. Dec. 18, 19, and 20. All entrants should double-check their decorations on those nights and be sure the area is illuminated.

Judges for the contest include Leon Ames of Leon Ames Ford; J. S. (Jack) Harpster, area newspaperman; M.L. (Pat) Wiley, Riviera Garden Club; and Kirner.

Area residents may enter the contest by contacting Kirner, 138 Paseo de Gracia.

## Man Jailed As Suspect In Robbery

Torrance police have arrested a suspect in connection with two purse snatching incidents reported Saturday.

Taken into custody early Sunday morning on armed robbery charges was Donald A. Heiderschied, 25, of Lomita. Police said he was carrying a large quantity of cash and fit the description of one of two men involved in the purse snatchings.

The purses, containing a total of \$160, were grabbed at 10:45 p.m. Saturday in the parking lot of the Sears store. Victims were sales ladies Mary Bell, 45, of 5525 White Court, and Martha Pavich, 45, of 25044 Woodward Ave., Lomita.

## Holdup Suspect Nabbed

A Torrance robbery suspect picked the wrong moment to hold up General Liquor Store, 2222 Redondo Beach Blvd. Torrance police patrolmen were about to enter the store for a routine business check just as the suspect was making his getaway.

Apprehended Friday at 9 p.m. was Thomas Howard Lenart, 21, of 21900 S. Martin St. Lenart is also known as Thomas Howard Morrisette.

Patrolmen reported that they were just getting out of their police car when they saw Lenart fleeing the store. At that moment, store clerk Arthur Larson ran out yelling, "That's him. He just held me up."

Patrolmen recovered the \$44 taken at gunpoint from the store, and confiscated a small revolver from the suspect.

Lenart was also charged with possession of marijuana when police found a plastic bag containing the green, leafy substance on the front seat of his car.

## 'Crucible' Will End Saturday

The last two performances of the El Camino College theater arts presentation of "The Crucible" are scheduled Friday and Saturday in the Campus Theater.

Written by Arthur Miller, the drama explores the roots of intolerance and mass hysteria in a small New England community that resulted in the Salem witch-hunts.

Student actors in director Peter Henderson's play come from the Centinela-South Bay communities, and according to Henderson, "are the most experienced and talented actors I've ever worked with."

Principal characters in the play are performed by Lew Brunhke, Austin Reingold, Marsha Cook, James Failing, Poke Runyon, and Bonnie Lee.

Tickets for the 8:30 p.m. performances are on sale at the college bookstore and will also be sold at the box office as available the evenings of the performances.

## Profile: Leo Wagner

## This Santa Gets Ready For 15th Year of Duty

Leo Wagner has been the premier Santa Claus in Torrance for 15 years. He is now getting his ho-hos warmed up for another successful season.

Born in 1899 in Cincinnati, Ohio, he enlisted in the Navy in 1917 and was sent overseas during World War I. He learned the electrician's trade and re-enlisted to go to Korea in 1949. He served as acting chaplain there, and contracted an illness that forced his medical discharge in 1952.

From this unlikely background, Wagner joined a Santa Claus training school in Gardena. Two years later, he was teaching classes there.

He soon went into business for himself, starting a school of his own and making television appearances for youth groups. His trademark is now widely-used helicopter entrance.

In the "off-season," he involved himself in youth work, and is a Gideon, the group that places Bibles in hotels. He was one of the originators of the now flourishing Torrance Area Youth band, and paid the director's first salary out of his own pocket.

After 15 years of Santa Clausing, Wagner has developed a style and manner that kids immediately take to. One reason for this, he said, is that he tries to stress the real meaning of Christmas to all the youngsters that camp on his knee.

"I tell them about the birth of Christ, and that this is the reason for the gifts and all the cele-



LEO WAGNER

bration," he says. When he runs into the traditional problems that every department-store Santa has known, he sets down some basic ground rules for himself.

"First," he says, "never lie to a child. Don't tell him you'll get him what he wants; leave it vague. Second, don't make promises. And finally, keep the ho-ho-hos going."

Talking to kids isn't the only duty a good Santa does, Wagner asserts. Wagner picks up all the mail addressed to the North Pole at the Torrance Post office and reads all the letters carefully.

"That's one of the things I do

as Santa Claus that really gives me a thrill — reading all the letters from the little ones," he states.

Not only does he read them, he often does something about them. For example, a few years ago he noticed many of the kids mentioned that their dads were out of work. Wagner went to Harvey Aluminum in Torrance and told the personnel office about it. They arranged a system whereby men sent in by Wagner would identify themselves with the phrase, "Santa sent me." They would be given top priority and they often got jobs.

How does he handle the problems of kids who don't "believe" in him or want to pull his beard?

"I tell them they can pull my beard if I can pull their hair. They say, 'But that'll hurt!' I say, 'It will hurt me if you pull my beard, too.'"

He never tells them he's the real, only Santa, but finds he has better results if he asks the kids what they think.

"Most of them will say, 'We saw lots of others on the street, but they're not like you,' " Wagner says.

Each child that visits him receives a letter to be read to them by their parents, explaining what Christmas is and admonishing them to say their prayers and mind their parents.

The Navy veteran turned-Santa Claus is believable, jolly, rolly-polly, and thoroughly in the Christmas spirit. If you're wondering, there is a Santa Claus, and he lives in Torrance.